

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for improving a visibility in a motor vehicle, comprising:

at least one infrared-sensitive image sensor system for acquiring an optical signal from a surrounding environment of the motor vehicle;

at least one signaling arrangement for producing an item of driver information; and

at least one processing unit for controlling the at least one signaling arrangement as a function of the acquired optical signal, wherein:

the at least one processing unit includes an arrangement for recognizing a course of a roadway from at least the optical signal, and for controlling the at least one signaling arrangement for producing the item of driver information as a function of the recognized course of the roadway.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 12, wherein:

the at least one processing unit includes an arrangement for recognizing at least one object, from at least the optical signal, and for controlling the at least one signaling arrangement as a function of a position of the at least one recognized object in relation to the course of the roadway.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 13, wherein:

the at least one object includes at least one of at least one other motor vehicle and at least one pedestrian.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 12, wherein:

the at least one processing unit includes an arrangement for controlling the at least one signaling arrangement as a function of at least one of a dangerousness of a driving situation and of a visibility condition.

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 13, further comprising:
at least one sensor including at least one of at least one radar sensor, at least one ultrasonic sensor, and at least one LIDAR distance sensor, wherein:

the at least one processing unit includes an arrangement for carrying out at least one of the recognition of the course of the roadway and the recognition of the at least one object as a function of a signal of the at least one additional sensor.

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 12, wherein:

the item of driver information represents at least one object including at least one of at least one other motor vehicle, at least one pedestrian, and the course of the roadway.

18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 12, wherein:

the item of driver information include at least one of at least one light pulse, at least one warning symbol, at least one image marking, at least one segment of an image, at least one acoustic signal, and at least one haptic signal.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 12, further comprising:

at least one infrared radiation source for illuminating at least a part of the surrounding environment, acquired by the at least one infrared-sensitive image sensor system, of the motor vehicle.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 12, wherein:

the at least one signaling arrangement includes one of at least one acoustic signaling arrangement and at least one optical signaling arrangement corresponding to at least one of at least one head-up display, at least one display screen, and at least one haptic signaling arrangement.

21. (Previously Presented) A method for improving a visibility in a motor vehicle, comprising:

acquiring, by at least one infrared-sensitive image sensor system, an optical signal from a surrounding environment of the motor vehicle;

controlling, by at least one processing unit, at least one signaling arrangement in order to produce an item of driver information as a function of the acquired optical signal; and

recognizing, by the at least one processing unit, a course of a roadway from at least the optical signal, wherein the item of driver information is produced as a function of the recognized course of the roadway.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 21, wherein at least one of:

the item of driver information is produced as a function of a position of at least one object in relation to the course of the roadway and the at least one object is recognized from at least the optical signal,

the item of driver information is produced as a function of a dangerousness of a driving situation,

the item of driver information is produced as a function of a visibility condition,

the item of driver information is produced as a function of a signal of at least one sensor including at least one of at least one radar sensor, at least one ultrasonic sensor, and at least one LIDAR distance sensor,

the item of driver information is suitable for representing at least one of at least one object and the course of the roadway, and

the item of driver information includes at least one of at least one light pulse, at least one warning symbol, at least one image marking, at least one segment of an image, at least one acoustic signal, and at least one haptic signal.

23. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 22, wherein:

the at least one object includes at least one of at least one other motor vehicle and at least one pedestrian.

24. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 22, wherein:

the method is executed via ~~on a program code of a computer program~~ encoded on a computer-readable medium.